

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04423 021650Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----050806 021651Z /50

Z O 021632Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 9043
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK FLASH
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV FLASH
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM FLASH
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 4423

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, MILI, LE
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: LEBANESE POSITION

1. FOLLOWING TELCON WITH DRAPER CALLED BOUTROS AT 1845 TO
TELL HIM (A) WE CONTINUING OUR EFFORTS AND THOUGHT WE
WERE HAVING SOME IMPACT. (B) JERUSALEM DOMESTIC SERVICE
HAD SAID THIS MORNING THAT ITS MILITARY CORRESPONDENT REPORTED
GOI HAD WITHDRAWN ITS OBJECTION TO LEBANESE MOVE BECAUSE
ACCOMPANYING SYRIAN TROOPS HAD WITHDRAWN. BOUTROS SAID HE
HAD HEARD ABOUT THIS BUT DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.

2. THEN ASKED BOUTROS WHAT GOL POSITION WAS. HE SAID HE
WOULD HAVE NOTHING FOR ME UNTIL TOMORROW. HE WAS EXPECTING
KHADDAM IN MORNING AND THEY WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY DISCUSS
PROBLEM. IN MEANTIME, LEBANESE WOULD TRY TO AVOID
DOING ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT COMPLICATE SITUATION FURTHER.

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3. BOUTROS WENT ON TO SAY THAT WHILE HE UNDERSTOOD U.S.
POSITION I HAD PRESENTED THIS MORNING (I.E., PUTTING HADDAD
ISSUE IN ICEBOX) OTHERS (MEANING HOSS AND PERHAPS SARKIS)
DID NOT. THIS WAS THE DIFFICULTY.

4. COMMENT: HADDAD ISSUE IS THE KEY AS FAR AS SUNNIS

AND SYRIANS CONCERNED. IT WILL TAKE CONSIDERABLE PERSUASION
TO GET THEM TO BYPASS IT, BUT MAYBE KHADDAM WILL INTRODUCE NOTE
OF PRAGMATISM.
PARKER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BEIRUT04423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780316-0434
Format: TEL
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197808104/aaaadjle.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e8250358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1553326
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON: LEBANESE POSITION
TAGS: PBOR, MILI, LE, (BOUTROS, FOUAD)
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e8250358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014